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Agenda items 35 and 39

**Protracted conflicts in the GUAM area and their implications for international peace, security and development**

**The situation in the occupied territories of Azerbaijan**

**Security Council**
**Sixty-sixth year**

## Letter dated 5 October 2011 from the Permanent Representative of Armenia to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to transmit herewith a statement by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Nagorno Karabakh Republic in connection with the recent initiatives by Azerbaijan and Baku's reaction with regard to the municipal elections, held on 18 September 2011 in the Nagorno Karabakh Republic (see annex).

I should be grateful if you would have the present letter and its annex circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda items 35 and 39, and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Garen **Nazarian**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

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## Annex to the letter dated 5 October 2011 from the Permanent Representative of Armenia to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

## Statement by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Nagorno Karabakh Republic in connection with the recent initiatives by Azerbaijan and Baku's reaction with regard to the municipal elections in the Nagorno Karabakh Republic

[1 October 2011]

The elections to local administrative bodies, held on 18 September 2011 in the Nagorno Karabakh Republic, have constituted another successful manifestation of the democratic process. Authorities formed through a voting process, evaluated by international observers as free and transparent, are called to continue the permanent process of the Karabakh people's self-organization and further deepening of the principles of an open and democratic society in the Republic.

By participating in elections, citizens of the Nagorno Karabakh Republic enjoyed the right to a free choice, an inherent right of all the nations around the globe. In this context, we consider any criticism of the democratic processes in the Nagorno Karabakh Republic as groundless, and contradictory to the modern trends in international relations.

In addition, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Nagorno Karabakh Republic considers it relevant to remind Azerbaijan that any attempts to deprive the people of Nagorno Karabakh of their right to democratic development and the continuing consolidation of civil society are doomed to failure. The Ministry of Foreign Affairs also expresses its concern at the lack of similar processes in the neighbouring republic.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs calls on the international community to demonstrate a constructive and rational attitude towards all the processes in the Nagorno Karabakh Republic, which contribute to the establishment of an open and democratic region of South Caucasus.